

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution No. 1617-0048**

Recognition of Faustena Byrd-Linarez and Diana Culmer, as Oakland Unified School District's
2016-2017 Teachers of the Year

WHEREAS – The goal of the District’s Teacher of the Year program is to identify and honor outstanding teachers and to celebrate and pay special tribute to the tireless efforts of outstanding Instructors, and

WHEREAS - the Teachers of the Year are known as particularly outstanding candidates chosen from among a competitive group of high-caliber instructors Districtwide, and

WHEREAS – Faustena Byrd-Linarez and Diana Culmer were selected as Oakland Unified School District's 2016-17 "Teachers of the Year," and

WHEREAS- Faustena Byrd-Linarez, kindergarten and T-K teacher at Carl B. Munck Elementary, is known for taking pride in the success of others, whether her students or fellow colleagues. A lifelong learner, she has instilled a love of learning in her students, actively charting roadmaps to their success; has instituted "Meaning Play," through a variety of classroom centers designed to facilitate educational and social-emotional growth in the District’s youngest students, and

WHEREAS – Ms. Byrd-Linarez is the kind of teacher who assists both her fellow educators and their students, whether by allowing the older 5th grade students to "Buddy-Coach" her T-K students or supporting fellow educators in learning methods, strategies and project-based professional development to support them in their teaching practice; and

WHEREAS – To help ensure all of her students meet the benchmarks and standards set by the District and the State of California, Ms. Byrd-Linarez has planned and facilitated professional development days for Art and ELA, taken leadership roles as Teacher-in-Charge, Leadership Team member, and mentor of student teachers; served as OEA representative; and planned and hosted "Welcome Days" for prospective parents and kindergartners; and

WHEREAS – Diana Culmer, Special Education teacher at Grass Valley has demonstrated exceptional commitment to bridging the gap between her students, their families, and the larger school community by setting high academic expectations and clear, rigorous standard’s aligned objectives and scaffolds and differentiating to help students with physical and cognitive challenges work towards these goals, and

WHEREAS – Ms. Culmer leads and serves in her school community by supporting beginning teachers, having served as a BTSA and/or intern coach for five different teachers; serving as a special education lead teacher, including leading a cohort of ten teachers; leading sections of professional development, observing new teachers, and opening her classroom to teachers in need, helping new educators understand the curriculum and the importance of teaching the grade level standards;

WHEREAS – Colleagues note that when visitors come to Ms. Culmer’s class they will observe students engaged in higher order thinking despite being on the autism spectrum, identified as intellectually disabled, or with processing disorders. Her students have learned that they are not mere consumers of knowledge, but they have the capacity to create and share knowledge. The academic rigor in her classroom is reflected in her students reading and math test scores, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Faustena Byrd-Linarez and Diana Culmer for exceptional service to the students and city of Oakland and honor them as the District's 2016-2017 Teachers of the Year.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 14th day of September, 2016, in Oakland, California.

James Harris
President, Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District

Antwan Wilson
Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District

Passed by the following vote:

AYES: Jody London, Jumoke Hinton Hodge, Shanthi Gonzales, Vice President Nina Senn and President James Harris

NOES: None

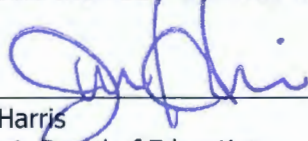
ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Aimee Eng and Roseann Torres

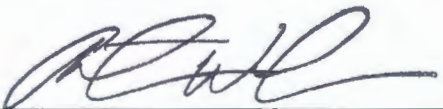
I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution passed at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District held September 14, 2016.

Legislative File	
File ID Number:	16-1954
Introduction Date:	09/14/2016
Enactment Number:	16-1926
Enactment Date:	9-14-16ef
By:	

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



James Harris
President, Board of Education



Antwan Wilson
Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution No. 1617-0048B**

**Recognition of Diana Culmer, as one of
Oakland Unified School District's Teachers of the Year for 2016-2017**

WHEREAS – The goal of the District's Teacher of the Year program is to identify and honor outstanding teachers and to celebrate and pay special tribute to the tireless efforts of outstanding instructors; and

WHEREAS – the Teacher of the Year is a particularly outstanding candidate chosen from among a competitive group of high-caliber instructors Districtwide; and

WHEREAS – Diana Culmer, Special Education teacher at Grass Valley Elementary, has demonstrated exceptional commitment to bridging the gap between her students, their families, and the larger school community by setting high academic expectations and clear, rigorous standards-aligned objectives, scaffolding and differentiation of instruction to help students with physical and cognitive challenges work towards these goals; and

WHEREAS – Ms. Culmer leads and serves in her school community by supporting beginning teachers, having served as a BTSA and/or intern coach for five different teachers; serving as a special education lead teacher, including leading a cohort of ten teachers; leading sections of professional development, observing new teachers, and opening her classroom to teachers in need, helping new educators understand the curriculum and the importance of teaching the grade level standards; and

WHEREAS – Her students are always engaged in higher order thinking, despite the fact that they are on the autism spectrum, identified as intellectually disabled, or with processing disorders. The academic rigor in her classroom is reflected in her students' reading and math test scores; and

WHEREAS – Students take ownership and learn how to communicate, collaborate, and solve problems in groups, pairs, and individually in her classroom; and

WHEREAS – Ms. Culmer loves instilling knowledge into young minds and will say it's because, "the best day of the week is seeing the light switch on when a student 'gets it,'" and, "the best day of the year when a child in her class goes from being well below average to succeeding far beyond what s/he thought was possible";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute and honor Diana Culmer for her outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor her as one of the District's 2016-2017 Teachers of the Year.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 14th day of September, 2016, in Oakland, California.

James Harris
President, Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District

Antwan Wilson
Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District



**RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution No. 1617-0048A**

**Recognition of Faustena Byrd-Linarez, as one of
Oakland Unified School District's Teachers of the Year for 2016-2017**

WHEREAS – The goal of the District's Teacher of the Year program is to identify and honor outstanding teachers and to celebrate and pay special tribute to the tireless efforts of outstanding instructors; and

WHEREAS – the Teacher of the Year is a particularly outstanding candidate chosen from among a competitive group of high-caliber instructors Districtwide; and

WHEREAS – Faustena Byrd-Linarez, kindergarten and T-K teacher at Carl B. Munck Elementary, is known for taking pride in the success of others, whether her students or fellow colleagues; and

WHEREAS – as a lifelong learner, she has instilled a love of learning in her students, actively charting roadmaps to their success and has instituted "Meaning Play," through a variety of classroom centers designed to facilitate educational and social-emotional growth in the District's youngest students; and

WHEREAS – Ms. Byrd-Linarez is the kind of teacher who assists both her fellow educators and their students, whether by allowing the older 5th grade students to "Buddy-Coach" her T-K students or supporting fellow educators in learning methods, strategies and project-based professional development to support them in their teaching practice; and

WHEREAS – to help ensure all of her students meet the benchmarks and standards set by the District and the State of California, Ms. Byrd-Linarez has planned and facilitated professional development days for Art and ELA, taken leadership roles as Teacher-in-Charge, Leadership Team member, and mentor of student teachers; served as OEA representative; and planned and hosted "Welcome Days" for prospective parents and kindergartners; and

WHEREAS – in Ms. Byrd-Linarez's class, parents are welcome to volunteer, and the cultures and languages of all the families are acknowledged and celebrated along with an intention to be respectful of differences and to address the needs of all students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute and honor Faustena Byrd-Linarez for her outstanding service to the students and city of Oakland and honor her as one of the District's 2016-2017 Teachers of the Year.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 14th day of September, 2016, in Oakland, California.

James Harris
President, Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District

Antwan Wilson
Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District